

HYUNDAI AMERICA TECHNICAL CENTER, INC.

A Subsidiary of
Hyundai Motor Company (Korea)

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July 3, 2003

Mr. Kenneth Weinstein
Associate Administrator for Safety Assurance
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RECEIVED
NHTSA-215
2003 JUL 22 A 8:51
OFFICE OF
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

RE: Defect Information Report

Dear Mr. Weinstein:

03V-257 ① or ④

Pursuant to Part 573 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Hyundai Motor Company is submitting information concerning a recall that is being voluntarily initiated. Specific information as required by Section 573.6 is as follows:

573.6(c)(1)

Manufacturer - Hyundai Motor Company

Distributor - Hyundai Motor America

573.6(c)(2)

Model year 2001, 2002 and 2003 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning June 30, 2000 through December 15, 2002 and model year 2002 and 2003 Hyundai Tiburon vehicles produced beginning August 10, 2001 through February 15, 2003.

573.6(c)(3)

Approximately 277,687 model year 2001, 2002 and 2003 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning June 30, 2000 through December 15, 2002 and approximately 34,605 model year 2002 and 2003 Hyundai Tiburon vehicles produced beginning August 10, 2001 through February 15, 2003.

573.6(c)(4)

All model year 2001, 2002 and 2003 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning June 30, 2000 through December 15, 2002 and model year 2002 and 2003 Hyundai Tiburon vehicles produced

HYUNDAI AMERICA TECHNICAL CENTER, INC.

beginning August 10, 2001 through February 15, 2003 are affected.

03V-257 ② of ④

573.6(c)(5)

The brake tubes for the rear brakes are located so that a portion of the tubes passes behind the front suspension crossmember. Two steering gear box mounting brackets are welded to the crossmember. On vehicles equipped with Antilock Brakes (ABS), the rear brake tubes may contact both steering gear box mounting brackets. On vehicles that are not equipped with ABS, the rear brake tubes may contact only the left steering gear box mounting bracket. Contact between the rear brake tubes and the steering gear box mounting brackets may result in rear brake tube wear and corrosion.

573.6(c)(6)

Hyundai Motor Company received information in late November 2002 that rear brake tube contact with a steering gear box mounting bracket was noticed on a pilot test vehicle produced at the Taiwan assembly plant. During late November through mid December 2002, Hyundai Motor Company conducted inspections to determine if the condition occurred on other vehicles. On December 16, 2002, Hyundai made a change in production for the Elantra and added two plastic brake tube clips on vehicles equipped with ABS and one plastic brake tube clip on vehicles not equipped with ABS. The brake tube clips reposition the rear brake tubes and prevent contact with the steering gear box mounting brackets.

Portions of the rear brake tubes of the Tiburon are covered with a heat resistant plastic material, which protects the rear brake tubes if they should contact the steering gear box mounting brackets. However, since the spatial relationship between the Tiburon rear brake tubes and steering gear box mounting brackets is very similar to that of the Elantra, Hyundai decided to also add plastic brake tube clips to the Tiburon to reposition the rear brake tubes and prevent contact with the steering gear box mounting brackets. Beginning with February 16, 2003 production of the Tiburon, two rear brake tube clips were added on ABS equipped vehicles and one brake tube clip was added on vehicles not equipped with ABS.

In late December 2002, Hyundai Motor Company developed plans to evaluate the use of brake tube clips and the application of anti-corrosion material as a potential procedure to be applied to vehicles that are in use in the field. During the period from late January 2002 through March 2003, new brake tube clip designs for the Elantra and Tiburon were developed, tooling for the brake tube clips was produced, and testing was conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of anti-corrosion material. During April through June 2003, potential material supply sources were investigated.

At the beginning of July 2003, Hyundai Motor Company provided notice that it decided to conduct a recall in the United States to reposition the rear brake tubes so they do not contact the steering gear box mounting brackets, install brake tube clips to control the location of the rear brake tubes, and to apply anti-corrosion material to the rear brake tubes in the areas where contact with the steering gear box mounting brackets may have occurred. Hyundai is not aware of any accidents or injuries related to this condition.

573.6(c)(8)

All owners of record of affected vehicles will be contacted by first class mail and instructed to bring their vehicles to Hyundai dealers. The rear brake tubes will be repositioned, brake tube clips will be installed to control the position of the rear brake tubes and anti-corrosion material will be applied in the areas where contact with the steering gear box mounting brackets may have occurred.

Hyundai anticipates that this recall campaign will be initiated during the third quarter of 2003 and will be completed in 12 weekly mailings.

Repairs related to the rear brake tubes of all vehicles affected by this recall would have been covered for 5 years or 60,000 miles under Hyundai's new vehicle limited warranty. As it is unlikely that owners of these 2001, 2002 and 2003 model year vehicles would have incurred expenses for this warranted repair or for replacement of the rear brake tubes as a result of this condition, Hyundai believes that it is not necessary, and should not be required, to provide notification regarding reimbursement under section 577.11.

573.6(c)(9)

The Technical Service Bulletin containing the service procedure for repositioning the rear brake tubes, installing brake tube clips to control the position of the rear brake tubes and applying anti-corrosion material in the areas where contact with the steering gear box mounting brackets may have occurred will be provided to NHTSA when available. Other relevant communications will also be forwarded when they are available.

573.6(c)(10)

A draft of the owner notification letter is attached.

573.6(c)(11)

Hyundai has assigned "Campaign 061" as the designation for this campaign.

Sincerely,



Robert Babcock
Manager, Corporate Affairs

Attachments: 1

DRAFT - MOTOR VEHICLE RECALL

Dear 2001, 2002 or 2003 Elantra Owner or 2002 or 2003 Tiburon Owner:

03V-257 ④ of ④

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

Hyundai has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain model year 2001, 2002 and 2003 Hyundai Elantra vehicles produced beginning June 30, 2000 through December 15, 2002 and model year 2002 and 2003 Hyundai Tiburon vehicles produced beginning August 10, 2001 through February 15, 2003.

What is the problem?

- A portion of the rear brake tubes passes behind the front suspension crossmember. Two steering gear box mounting brackets are welded to the crossmember. On vehicles equipped with Antilock Brakes (ABS), the rear brake tubes may contact both steering gear box mounting brackets. On vehicles that are not equipped with ABS, the rear brake tubes may contact only the left steering gear box mounting bracket. Contact between the rear brake tubes and the steering gear box mounting brackets may result in rear brake tube wear and corrosion.

Severe rear brake tube wear and corrosion may result in brake fluid leakage. Brake fluid leakage may result in reduced braking capability in the portion of the dual diagonal braking system that contains the leaking brake tube. Reduced braking capability may result in an accident.

What will Hyundai do?

- To ensure that your vehicle does not experience rear brake tube wear or corrosion as a result of contact between the rear brake tubes and the steering gear box mounting brackets, we are asking you to schedule an appointment as soon as possible to take your vehicle to your Hyundai dealer. The Hyundai dealer will reposition the rear brake tubes so they do not contact the steering gear box mounting brackets, install brake tube clips to control the location of the rear brake tubes, and apply anti-corrosion material to the rear brake tubes in the areas where contact with the steering gear box mounting brackets may have occurred. This procedure will be performed at no charge to you. You should plan to leave your vehicle at your Hyundai dealer for a half day to have this service performed.

What should you do?

- We urge you to call your Hyundai dealer to schedule an appointment to have this work performed as soon as possible.

What if you have other questions?

- If you have any difficulty having this repair performed, we recommend that you call the Hyundai Customer Assistance Center at 1-800-633-5151. If you are still not satisfied that we have remedied this situation without charge, and within a reasonable amount of time, you may wish to write to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S. W., Washington, D.C. 20590 or call their toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236.

We urge your prompt attention to this important safety matter.

Hyundai Motor America